



Church Planter Assessment Application - Texas District, LCMS

- Complete this form on your computer using the spaces provided.
- SAVE the completed document on your computer.
- Print and sign page and the Background Check Authorization Form.
- Mail the printed application with signatures to: **Office of the President**
1221 Satellite View
Round Rock, TX 78665

Who from the Texas District Mission Team referred you to be assessed as a potential church planter?

- Stephen Sohns Ben Gonzales Lincon Guerra
 Peter Mueller Larry Rietz

(If you have not received a referral, please contact the District President's Office: 512-926-4272)

+ + +

A. Personal Information

Name _____ Date of Application _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-mail _____ Cell/Preferred Phone _____
 Date of Birth _____ Place _____
 Citizen of the United States: Yes No If not, residency status _____
 Present Church Membership _____

B. Family Information

Current Marital Status Single Married Date of Marriage _____
 Have you ever been divorced? Yes No If yes, when? _____
 Have you ever lost a spouse to death? Yes No If yes, when? _____
 If not married, but engaged, date of wedding _____
(If you are engaged, please list information for your fiancé)
 Spouse's Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Spouse's E-mail _____
 Spouse's Occupation: _____
 Currently employer: _____
 Citizen of the United States: Yes No If not, residency status _____
 Has your spouse ever been divorced? Yes No If yes, when? _____
 Has your spouse ever lost a spouse to death? Yes No If yes, when? _____

Children

Name _____ Age _____ Living at Home _____

Name _____ Age _____ Living at Home _____

Name _____ Age _____ Living at Home _____

Name _____ Age _____ Living at Home _____

Health Review

Your Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Spouse Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Child

Name: _____ Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Child

Name: _____ Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Child

Name: _____ Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Child

Name: _____ Health Status: ___ Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Poor

Describe any limiting factors

Your Racial/Ethnic Origin

___ African American ___ American Indian ___ Asian ___ Caucasian ___ Hispanic

Other (please identify) _____

Are you bilingual? ___ Yes ___ No Primary Language _____

Secondary Language(if applicable) _____

Your Spouse's Racial/Ethnic Origin

___ African American ___ American Indian ___ Asian ___ Caucasian ___ Hispanic

Other (please identify) _____

Are you bilingual? ___ Yes ___ No Primary Language _____

Secondary Language (if applicable) _____

C. Education and Credentials (High school and beyond)

Name of School	City	Date of Leaving	Degree Received

Other credentials or certification(s)

Spouse's Education (High school and beyond)

Name of School	City	Date of Leaving	Degree Received

Other credentials or certification(s)

D. Personal Learning/Experiences

- Briefly describe any conferences/workshops etc. that you have attended during the past two years (including tapes/CD/s, videos, webinars, etc.)

- What books of all types have you read during the last 12 months? This is to include books for courses as well as other reading.

E. Church Experiences

Complete all information for each church served. Start with current/last church.

Church _____

City _____ State _____ Denomination _____

Position _____ Years Served _____

Location ___ rural ___ small-town ___ medium or large city ___ urban ___ suburban

Average worship attendance _____

Number of total baptisms _____ Number of adults baptized/confirmed _____

Church _____
 City _____ State _____ Denomination _____
 Position _____ Years Served _____
 Location ___ rural ___ small-town ___ medium or large city ___ urban ___ suburban
 Average worship attendance _____
 Number of total baptisms _____ Number of adults baptized/confirmed _____

Church _____
 City _____ State _____ Denomination _____
 Position _____ Years Served _____
 Location ___ rural ___ small-town ___ medium or large city ___ urban ___ suburban
 Average worship attendance _____
 Number of total baptisms _____ Number of adults baptized/confirmed _____

F. Other Work Experience

Begin with your most recent employment and work backwards. *Do not include church experience.*

Dates	Position	Company	City, State

Spouse's Work Experience (*Include church experience*)

Dates	Position	Company	City, State

G. Financial Readiness

How do you plan to support yourself and your family financially during your first 2 years of church planting?

Are you open to serve as a bi-vocational pastor? ___ Yes ___ No ___ Unsure

Amount of applicant's student loan debt: \$ _____
 Amount of spouse's student loan debt: \$ _____
 Amount of credit card debt: \$ _____
 Other total debt: (*Examples: auto, mortgage, medical, etc.*) \$ _____

Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? ___ Yes ___ No

Has your spouse ever filed for bankruptcy? ___ Yes ___ No

H. Statement of Faith and Denominational Affiliation

Have you been licensed or ordained? Yes No

If yes, which and by whom? _____ Date _____

Denomination or affiliation of ordaining church _____

If you have not been ordained, what program of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will you be (or are you) enrolled in? SMP EIIT CHS CMC LCMS Colloquy

Please state briefly what your doctrinal position is on:

(Use Scripture passages to support your statements.)

1. The Bible

2. Jesus

3. The Holy Spirit

4. God the Father

5. The Nature of Man

6. Justification *(How one is saved)*

7. Sanctification *(Living the Christian life)*

8. The role of the church planter

I. Personal Christian Experiences

1. When and how did you become a Christian?
2. When and how did your spouse become a Christian?
3. Give the names of the teachers, mentors, writers or leaders who have most influenced your walk with God and your thinking about ministry.

J. General Information

1. Describe your hobbies, special interests, and/or favorite forms of recreation
2. Describe any community involvement or volunteer service (*i.e. disaster relief, American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity...*)
3. Where do you meet non-Christians and how do you normally share your faith?
4. Who have you discipled in the past 2 years and how did you disciple them?
5. What are your strong points (*gifts/talents*) in life/ministry?

6. What are your needed areas of growth in ministry?

K. Church Planting

1. Do you definitely believe that God has called you to plant a church rather than serve an established one? Yes No Unsure

2. Who is your sending/sponsoring congregation(s)/other sponsoring entity?

a. Name _____ City _____

3. Describe what the ministry you'll be leading will look like.

4. Do you sense a call to a particular place, region, ethnic community, etc.? Explain

5. Is your spouse persuaded of this call? Yes No Unsure

6. Is your spouse currently involved in ministry? Yes No (If 'Yes,' how?)

7. What experiences have you had at starting something new (i.e. new ministries, new businesses, new ventures, new programs, new projects, etc.)? How did they turn out?

8. What other experiences have you had that you believe have prepared you to start a new church/ministry?

9. What will be your priorities in starting this ministry?

L. To Be Completed by the Church Planter Candidate's Spouse

1. Are you supportive of your husband in being a church planter? Yes No Unsure
Explain.

2. What would you list as your top three spiritual gifts?

3. How do you currently use these gifts in your Christian life?

4. What will be your role in the church plant?

____ A supportive role only

____ A partner in leadership and ministry, fulfilling a distinctive role in the church

M. References

Provide names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of two references whom we may contact and who could/would attest to your character as well as skills and attributes for mission planting.

Reference Number One

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Relationship to you _____

Reference Number Two

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Relationship to you _____

N. Potpourri *(To be completed by the church planter candidate)*

Is there anything else you would like to share with the assessor team prior to the assessment?

Signature: _____ Date _____

Para información en español, visite www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore o escribe a la Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under FCRA. **For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.**

- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or another type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment – or to take another adverse action against you – must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.
- **You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:
 - a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
 - you are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
 - your file contains inaccurate information as a result of fraud;
 - you are on public assistance;
 - you are unemployed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.

In addition, all consumers are entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for additional information.

- **You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score from consumer reporting agencies that create scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information for free from the mortgage lender.
- **You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer

reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for an explanation of dispute procedures.

- **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However, a consumer reporting agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.
- **Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.
- **Access to your file is limited.** A consumer reporting agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need – usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer, landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.
- **You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or a potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.
- **You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited “prescreened” offers for credit and insurance must include a toll-free phone number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based on. You may opt out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688).
- The following FCRA right applies with respect to nationwide consumer reporting agencies:

CONSUMERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBTAIN A SECURITY FREEZE

You have a right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended fraud alert on your credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is

placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting 7 years.

A security freeze does not apply to a person or entity, or its affiliates, or collection agencies acting on behalf of the person or entity, with which you have an existing account that requests information in your credit report for the purposes of reviewing or collecting the account. Reviewing the account includes activities related to account maintenance, monitoring, credit line increases, and account upgrades and enhancements.

- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.
- **Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.

States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. For information about your federal rights, contact:

TYPE OF BUSINESS:	CONTACT:
<p>1. a. Banks, savings associations, and credit unions with total assets of over \$10 billion and their affiliates</p> <p>b. Such affiliates that are not banks, savings associations, or credit unions also should list, in addition to the CFPB:</p>	<p>a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau 1700 G Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20552</p> <p>b. Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357</p>
<p>2. To the extent not included in item 1 above:</p> <p>a. National banks, federal savings associations, and federal branches and federal agencies of foreign banks</p> <p>b. State member banks, branches and agencies of foreign banks (other than federal branches, federal agencies, and Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks), commercial lending companies owned or controlled by foreign banks, and organizations operating under section 25 or 25A of the Federal Reserve Act.</p> <p>c. Nonmember Insured Banks, Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks, and insured state savings associations</p> <p>d. Federal Credit Unions</p>	<p>a. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Customer Assistance Group 1301 McKinney Street, Suite 3450 Houston, TX 77010-9050</p> <p>b. Federal Reserve Consumer Help Center P.O. Box 1200 Minneapolis, MN 55480</p> <p>c. FDIC Consumer Response Center 1100 Walnut Street, Box #11 Kansas City, MO 64106</p> <p>d. National Credit Union Administration Office of Consumer Financial Protection (OCFP) Division of Consumer Compliance Policy and Outreach 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314</p>
<p>3. Air carriers</p>	<p>Asst. General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement & Proceedings Aviation Consumer Protection Division Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590</p>
<p>4. Creditors Subject to the Surface Transportation Board</p>	<p>Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board Department of Transportation 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20423</p>
<p>5. Creditors Subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921</p>	<p>Nearest Packers and Stockyards Administration area supervisor</p>
<p>6. Small Business Investment Companies</p>	<p>Associate Deputy Administrator for Capital Access United States Small Business Administration 409 Third Street, S.W., Suite 8200 Washington, DC 20416</p>
<p>7. Brokers and Dealers</p>	<p>Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549</p>
<p>8. Federal Land Banks, Federal Land Bank Associations, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, and Production Credit Associations</p>	<p>Farm Credit Administration 1501 Farm Credit Drive McLean, VA 22102-5090</p>
<p>9. Retailers, Finance Companies, and All Other Creditors Not Listed Above</p>	<p>Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357</p>

ADDITIONAL STATE LAW NOTICES

If you live in, work in, or are seeking work for **The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod** in Washington State, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Minnesota, Oklahoma, or California, please note:

State of Washington applicants/employees only: If the Company requests an investigative consumer report (as defined by state law) from a consumer reporting agency, you have the right to receive a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation requested by the Company. You also have the right to request a written summary of your rights and remedies under the Washington Fair Credit Reporting Act.

Massachusetts applicants/employees only: If the Company requests an investigative consumer report (as defined by state law) from a consumer reporting agency, you have the right to have a copy of the report upon request.

New Jersey applicants/employees only: If the Company requests an investigative consumer report (as defined by state law) from a consumer reporting agency, you have the right to have a copy of the report upon request.

New York applicants/employees only: You have the right, upon written request, to be informed of whether or not an investigative consumer report (as defined by state law) was requested from a consumer reporting agency. If a report was requested, you will be provided with the name and address of the consumer reporting agency to whom the request was made. You may also inspect and receive a copy of the report by contacting AAIM Employers' Association, 1600 S. Brentwood Blvd., Suite 400, St. Louis, MO 63144, (314) 754-0236. You are also now receiving a copy of Article 23-A of the NY Correction Law.

Minnesota applicants/employees only: You have the right, upon written request, to receive a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the consumer report. A consumer reporting agency must make this disclosure within five (5) days of receipt of your request or of the Company's request for the report, whichever is later. Please check this box if you would like to receive a copy of a consumer report if one is obtained by the Company.

Oklahoma applicants/employees only: Please check this box if you would like to receive a copy of a consumer report if one is obtained by the Company.

California applicants/employees only: In addition to this document, you are receiving a copy of the NOTICE REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA LAW.

NOTICE REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION
PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA LAW

(For California Applicants and Employees Only)

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod intends to obtain information about you from an investigative consumer reporting agency for employment purposes. Thus, you can expect to be the subject of "investigative consumer reports" obtained for employment purposes. Such reports may include information about your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and mode of living. With respect to any investigative consumer report from an investigative consumer reporting agency ("ICRA"), the Company may investigate the information contained in your employment application and other background information about you, including but not limited to: your criminal history, sex offender registry status, driving history, education history, employment history, and professional licenses. The Company may also obtain comments from individuals who are knowledgeable about you. These reports may be used as a factor in making employment decisions. The source of any investigative consumer report (as that term is defined under California law) will be AAIM Employers' Association, 1600 S. Brentwood Blvd., Suite 400, St. Louis, MO 63144, (314) 754-0236. Information regarding AAIM Employers' Association's privacy practices (including information about whether any consumer personal information will be sent outside the U.S. or its territories) may be found at <https://aaimea.org/privacy-policy/>.

Under California Civil Code section 1786.22, you are entitled to find out from an ICRA what is in the ICRA's file on you with proper identification, as follows:

- In person, by visual inspection of your file during normal business hours and upon reasonable notice. You also may request a copy of the information in person. The ICRA may not charge you more than the actual copying costs for providing you with a copy of your file.
- A summary of all information contained in the ICRA's file on you which is required to be provided by the California Civil Code and will be provided to you via telephone, if you have made a written request with proper identification for telephone disclosure and the toll charge, if any, for the telephone call is prepaid by or charged directly to you.
- By requesting a copy be sent to a specified addressee by certified mail. ICRAs complying with requests for certified mailings shall not be liable for disclosures to third parties caused by mishandling of mail after such mailings leave the ICRAs.

"Proper Identification" includes documents such as a valid driver's license, social security account number, military identification card, and credit cards. Only if you cannot identify yourself with such information may the ICRA require additional information concerning your employment and personal or family history in order to verify your identity.

The ICRA will provide trained personnel to explain any information furnished to you and will provide a written explanation of any coded information contained in files maintained on you. This written explanation will be provided whenever a file is provided to you for visual inspection.

You may be accompanied by one other person of your choosing, who must furnish reasonable identification. An ICRA may require you to furnish a written statement granting permission to the ICRA to discuss your file in such person's presence.

Please check this box if you would like to receive a copy of an investigative consumer report (as defined by relevant state law) at no charge if one is obtained by the Company.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING
BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION ON YOU

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod may obtain a “consumer report” about you from a consumer reporting agency for employment purposes. A “consumer” report is a background screening report that may contain information regarding your criminal history, sex offender registry status, credit history, employment history, education history, driving history, professional licenses, and other information about you. It may bear upon your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and/or mode of living.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE REGARDING
INVESTIGATIVE CONSUMER REPORTS ON YOU

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod may also request an “investigative consumer report” on you from a consumer reporting agency.

An “investigative consumer report” is a background screening report generated through personal interviews with sources such as your neighbors, friends or associates.

The consumer reporting agency that may prepare an “investigative consumer report” on you for the Company is AAIM Employers’ Association, 1600 S. Brentwood Blvd., Suite 400, St. Louis, MO 63144, (314) 754-0236. The information contained in an “investigative consumer report” may bear upon your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and/or mode of living.

Please be advised that the nature and scope of the most common form of “investigative consumer report” that may be ordered by the Company is an investigation into your employment history. During such an investigation, AAIM Employers’ Association may ask questions about your employment history to certain knowledgeable individuals and provide response information to the Company.

Note: You have the right to request disclosure of the exact nature and scope of any “investigative consumer report” ordered by the Company on you. You may do so by contacting the Company.

AUTHORIZATION REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

By signing below, I acknowledge receipt of the following separate documents (and certify that I have read and understood them):

- DISCLOSURE REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION ON YOU;
- A SUMMARY OF YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT;
- ADDITIONAL NOTICE REGARDING INVESTIGATIVE CONSUMER REPORTS ON YOU;
- ADDITIONAL STATE LAW NOTICES.

By signing below, I also authorize **The Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS)** to obtain “consumer reports” and “investigative consumer reports,” about me for Reinstatement or Colloquy to the Roster of the LCMS at any time during said process.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION NEEDED FOR BACKGROUND CHECK

Please supply the following information to facilitate a background check on you.

**Mail completed forms to: President's Office
1221 Satellite View
Round Rock, TX 78665**

Full Name (First, middle, last): _____

Social Security Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Driver License No.: _____

State Issued: _____

Full Current Address

Additional Previous Address Within the Last 7 Years

Additional Previous Address Within the Last 7 Years

For those who do not hold a US Passport and/or US Driver's License we will need the following:

Your Mother's Full Maiden Name _____

Your Complete In-Country Address- current or last registered address:

A copy of your Government ID as follows:

Citizens: CURP Number (18 alpha-numeric characters) or Copy (front and back) of IFE card, or Copy of Mexico Passport

Foreigners: Copy of Passport, Copy of US Passport Card, or Copy of US Driver's License